

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9881

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

S E C R E T BRUSSELS 0903

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BE, CG

SUBJECT: SGM-GOZ COPPER NEGOTIATIONS; BELGIAN MINISTERS'

MEETING WITH MOBUTU

REF: BRUSSELS 776; KINSHASA 1263

1. FONMIN AFRICA DIRECTOR LEBRUN PROVIDED EMBOFF FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON SGM ACCORD FEBRUARY 8 AFTER REVIEWING AGREEMENT WITH SGM REPRESENTATIVES EARLIER SAME DAY. ACCORDING TO LEBRUN, AGREEMENT IS A "PRE-ACCORD" UNDER WHICH TWO SIDES WILL NEGOTIATE BY END OF MARCH NEW SGM-GEAMINES CONTRACT CONTAINING FOLLOWING FIVE MAIN POINTS.

A) FINAL INDEMNIFICATION PAYMENTS AMOUNTING TO FOUR BILLION BF WILL BE MADE TO UNION MINIERE OVER ONE YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING MARCH 1974. (LEBRUN SAID INDEMNIFICATION IN THIS AMOUNT DEFINITELY AGREED ON AND NOT SUBJECT TO CONCLUSION OF NEW CONTRACT.)

B) NEW TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WILL BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN SGM AND GEAMINES. IT WILL INCLUDE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS PLUS NEW COOPERATION IN FIELD OF MARKETING.

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C) NEW ZIARIAN MARKETING COMPANY WILL BE CREATED AND

RUN WITH ASSISTANCE OF SGM.

D) SGM WILL BUILD NEW COPPER REFINERY IN BAS-ZAIRE.

E) COPPER DELIVERIES FROM ZAIRE TO HOBOKEN REFINERY
WILL CONTINUE AT PAST LEVELS.

(LEBRUN SAID GOZ HAD ALREADY INFORMED IBRD OF AGREEMENT.)

2. LEBRUN CONFIRMED THAT MEETING OF PRIME MINISTER
LEBURTON AND FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE WITH PRESIDENT
MOBUTU IN MUNICH FEBRUARY 6 HAD NOTHING TO DO
WITH CONCLUSION OF COPPER
AGREEMENT. DURING MEETING, AT WHICH LEBRUN WAS PRESENT, MOBUTU
SAID THAT GOZ WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH FREE MOVEMENT OF
EUROPEANS IN ZAIRE AND THAT COMPENSATION WOULD BE PAID
FOR "ZAIRIANIZED" PROPERTIES. THERE WILL BE NO
COMPENSATION, HOWEVER, IN 1974, DURING WHICH MOBUTU
WANTS TO EXAMINE TAKEOVERS CASE BY CASE. ACCORDING TO
LEBRUN, BELGIAN SIDE PROPOSED CREATION OF JOINT BELGIAN-
ZAIRIAN GROUP TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS BETWEEN TWO
COUNTRIES AS THEY ARISE. MOBUTU DID NOT RESPOND TO
SUGGESTION, BUT IT WAS AGREED THAT TALKS ON ECONOMIC
MEASURES WOULD RESUME IN MARCH. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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